SPECIAL NOTE

Due to severe weather conditions of this past winter as well as the lack of seeds being produced there will not be a "Seed Bank Program" for this year. For those of you who might have been more fortunate than others and have some seeds you would like to share with others, please contact this editor or Mrs. C.H. Calais, Executive Secretary, Goldenrod, Florida.

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TOPICS OF INTEREST

Glad Reusch suggests the use of pipestem cleaners - any color - inserted into the bottom of hibiscus calyxes and twisted over a pencil to make a coil - for a quickie corsage for a suit or morning wear.

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Dear Billie:

Thanks for the invitation to come to Convention at Cypress Gardens. I am afraid I will not be able to attend, but thanks for the invitation. I am afraid I will go through the same trouble this year that I had last year. My asthma trouble has already started. I will be compelled to slow down. Thanks again. Best regards to all members of the A.H.S. and special greetings to Colonel Charlie.

G. E. MERIWETHER
2216 East Fifth Street
Montgomery 6, Alabama

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Dear Mrs. Calais,

I received my copy of the SEED POD last week and enjoyed it thoroughly but there just wasn't enough of it.

Well, I certainly am glad the weather has taken a turn for the better. Down here in the Everglades,

frost is almost unheard of - yet we had three disastrous sieges of it this last winter and, to be perfectly honest, I was about ready to throw the towel in as far as my hibiscus and crotons were concerned. For a while you could almost count the leaves left on the plants on your fingers. Oh, incidently, I lost only five or six small plants and a couple of ixoras (hybrids) so, I really am thankful since I imagine some of my northern neighbors who are hibiscus fanciers fared much worse than I. To get back to the present, I would like to start by telling you something about the layout of my home. To begin with, the house we (my parents and I) live in was moved from another part of town to quite a good size lot (approx. 125'x85'). There was no foliage whatsoever about the house, when I first came out of the service about 8 or 9 months ago (my father and mother both work). I have always liked ornamentals, having raised them in Fort Myers years ago, as well as at my own home in Naples where I have quite a large collection of crotons, etc. So, I started buying a few here and there and then one day I was glancing through the Miami Herald and I noticed that Floton's Nursery in Miami were specialists in hybrids. So my next trip to Miami I filled the car full of these and since that time I have received approximately 150 different hibiscus & crotons from him (Mr. Anton Kunz, Floton's) as well as one large order from Reasoner's - which, incidentally, Mr. Norman Reasoner brought down himself a few weeks before his untimely demise.

I have started landscaping the yard in this fashion. I have a hedge about three or four feet in from the back of all different hibiscus. So there are about twenty in that hedge. I have now started a new hedge. To begin with I made the mistake of merely setting each individual plant out in a separate hole and then going to the next one and then going to the next spot and digging another hole. Well, naturally everything was pretty soon choked with weeds - so, this Spring I have taken a spade and painstakingly dug and turn over all the soil in a bed about seven or eight wide across the back of the lot and have cul-